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Utah State University, "The Utah Statesman, April 28, 2016" (2016). *The Utah Statesman*. 307.
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NEWS | Caroline Planque
A death-row photographer spoke at USU about the justice system Monday.
see PAGE 2

STUDENT LIFE | Wild Weather
Ever wondered why Utah's weather is so unpredictable? Find out from USU climatologists.
see PAGE 4



SPORTS | From the fairway
Senior golfer ends his collegiate career with hopes to go pro.
see PAGE 6

Jon M. Huntsman encourages students to find their 'unborn masterpieces'



PHOTO BY **Johnny Morris**
The Huntsman family poses during the grand opening of the newly constructed Huntsman Hall.

By Cole Hammond
STAFF WRITER
How do you measure a man? In pounds and feet? In dollars and decimals? In bricks and mortar? Or maybe, in the lives he has touched.

Huntsman is a name thrown around a lot at Utah State University — Huntsman Hall, the new addition to the business building, is the most recent mention — but how many students are familiar with the man behind the name?

Jon M. Huntsman Sr. was born on June 21, 1937 in Blackfoot, Idaho. After moving to Palo Alto, California, Huntsman was given a scholarship to Wharton School of Business, which he graduated from in 1959. Huntsman married Karen Haight that same year, then

served two years in the Navy. He would go on to pursue a career in business, culminating in the creation of the Huntsman Corporation, which operates more than 100 facilities in over 30 countries worldwide. The Huntsman
see "Jon M. Huntsman"PAGE 3

Greek row down a house, potentially 2

By Morgan Pratt
STAFF WRITER
A "for rent" sign sits outside the Sigma Phi Epsilon house as the fraternity brothers scramble to pack and study for their finals simultaneously. On May 7, their contract will end, and they are leaving the house at 765 N. 800 E., never to return again. They chose to not extend that contract through the summer and into the fall semester.
The house will be torn down in the next several months to make way for a new student housing complex, Blue Haven.
Sigma Phi Epsilon president, Ian Nemelka, said they are disappointed to be leaving the house, but they are still going to be an active fraternity on campus.
"It was really nice having the house," he said. "We hosted a lot of great parties there that we wouldn't have had if we didn't have the house. Plus, we were known for having the blue driveway."
Sig Ep moved into the house five years ago after Utah State University terminated its relationship with the former Epsilon Upsilon Chapter of Sigma Nu that used to reside there, said Nemelka.
"We've always known this was only a temporary setup," he said.
Twitter is alive with tweets of Sig Ep brothers enjoying the house for the last time.
"As I sit here on the couch of @USUSigEp house, I can't help but overcome with emotion," Braxton Moon tweeted. "This place has taught me so much over the last three years."
The fraternity rented their house from John Brandley, the property owner. He said he plans on demolishing that house, along with the Alpha Tau Omega house and a few other apartments on that same block, to make way for Blue Haven. It is expected to be finished by August of 2018.
He said he had a pretty good working relationship with Sig Ep during the five years he owned the property, until they got a new house manager. Sig Ep was fairly independent,



PHOTO BY **Jessica Barber**
The Sig Ep House will be torn down soon in order to make room for the new housing building, Blue Haven.

but they had different visions for the future, including the manager's desire to own their own property. Brandley said, as the current property owner, he didn't want to be told what to do from the new management.
"I've only spoken with the new manager on the phone a couple of times, but he wants to tell us what to do with our property," he said. "That is never going to end well."
Regardless of his relationship with the manager, he offered to let Sig Ep stay there until the house was torn down at a very steep discount. They almost reached an agreement, but the fraternity backed out at the last minute.
Benjamin Wilson, the vice president of relations for the Alumni Volunteer Corporation, confirmed things were tense at times when they were trying to come to a deal with Brandley.
"We were trying to negotiate an agreement with Brandley into staying in the house for a longer amount of time," he said. "Unfortunately, that didn't come to fruition." he said.
As of May 9, the 22 private bedrooms will be available for rent in the former Sig Ep house, Brandley said.

"Moving out was their decision and it left us in a bind with little time to replace them," he said.
While Sig Ep is looking for a house to live in, in the meantime, they are looking for a place to meet, Wilson said. They are considering both on and off-campus solutions.
"We'll certainly miss the house, but a fraternity is about much more than a house," he said. "We are centered around ideals, virtue and leadership. Even without the house, we will continue to grow and thrive in the coming months and years."
Nikoles Clason, president of ATO, said the housing contract will end August 19, 2019. But, there are not official plans yet and everything is in the preliminary stages.
Brandley has not contacted us with any dates or official plans, said Ryan Taylor, a member of the ATO Board of Trustees.
"It is safe to assume that Greek row will not include current ATO and Sig Ep houses for more than a couple of years," Taylor said. "Whether this means development of a second Greek row or not, time will tell."
Brandley said he hopes the new Blue Haven student housing will clean up the street, make

a nice entryway to campus, and mirror the beautiful Aggie Recreation Center across the way. The nearly 350 married and unmarried students who live there will be less than 100 feet from the university and the ARC.
"Even on-campus housing can't offer that," he said. "That is going to be an amazing thing. It will be a great thing for the university for the next 100 years."
The Blue Haven development was approved a few weeks ago by Logan City, but they are still working out a parking agreement.
"We are working on it to show that we don't need one-to-one parking," he said, referring to zoning laws around campus that require one parking stall per person on the property. "So we are doing a study. Even the university thinks that rule is ridiculous in this part of town."
Brandley said the team hopes to start construction in Jan. or March, depending on the winter.

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USU conductor Craig Jessop receives award from governor

By Jillian McCarthy
STAFF WRITER

Utah State University’s founding dean of the Caine College of the Arts (CCA), Craig Jessop, is being awarded for his exemplary leadership in Utah arts. The award was chosen and will be presented by Governor Gary Herbert at a luncheon on May 5.

“I have been to several of these luncheons before, and have watched as all these wonderful people received these awards,” said Jessop, a USU alumnus, “I never dreamed that I would be a recipient, so it was very nice and a little shocking to receive the news.”

Jessop has a long list of accomplishments in music and art, according to his biography. These include his 13-year career as music director of the world-famous Mormon Tabernacle Choir and serving as USU’s head of the music department. He founded the American Festival Chorus and Orchestra, for which he is also the music director. In addition, he served as the music director of the Carnegie Hall National High School Choral Festival.

His extensive biography does not end there, for he was also director of the U.S. Air Force Singing Sergeants in Washington D.C. Along with his USU Bachelor of Science, Jessop has a Master of Arts from Brigham Young University and a Doctor of Musical Arts in Conducting from Stanford University.

There will be four awards presented at the Mountain West Arts Conference for the 2016 Governor’s Leadership in the Arts Awards, which will be held at the Utah Cultural Celebration Center in West Valley City.

In addition to Jessop’s Individual Leadership in the Arts Award, the Organizational Leadership in the Arts Award is being awarded to the Utah Arts Festival, James Rees is being awarded the Education Leadership in the Arts Award and Zion Canyon Arts & Humanities Council is being awarded the Local Arts Agency Leadership in the Arts Award.

“This year’s recipients play important roles in highlighting the cultural magnificence of Utah, providing valuable educational opportu-



PHOTO BY **Johnny Morris**
Craig Jessop, dean of the Caine College of the Arts, receives the Individual Leadership in the Arts Award.

nities and boosting the economy of the state,” Gov. Herbert said in a press release. “Their leadership enhances the livability of communities in all corners of Utah and prepares future generations for creative success.”

Other important figures are recognizing the accomplishments and successes of these recipients as well.

“As a Division we have the privilege of working with many of these exceptional recipients on a regular basis through our programs and partnerships,” said Gay Cookson, Utah Arts & Museums Director. “I am proud of what these individuals and organizations have done to improve the lives of all Utahns and look forward to what they have yet to achieve.”

This is not the first award Jessop has received for his talents, for he also received the Arts Administrator of the Year Award at the National Convention of the College Orchestra Director’s Association. He received the prestigious Madeleine Award for distinguished service to the Arts and Humanities. In 2012 he was awarded the Utah National Guard’s Minuteman Award for service to the

state of Utah.

“In 2014 I received the governors mansion performing artist award by Governor Gary Herbert, so it is the second time he has honored me,” Jessop said. “I was presented the award at a special dinner at the governor’s mansion in Salt Lake.”

Jessop continues to impact student lives now that he works full time at USU as a dean and professor.

“Dr. Jessop was one of the main reasons why I wanted to come here,” said Kelsey Hess, a senior in the Choral Education department in the CCA. “He is extraordinarily talented and knows what quality groups sound like and how to push his ensembles to achieve those high expectations.”

Hess said that she has performed in two of his choral productions and will be involved in a Bach concerto he’s directing over the summer.

“He doesn’t settle if we as a group are incapable of doing what he wants. He teaches us until we get it, and it’s what I want to pattern my own ensembles after,” she said. “Dr. Jessop is as brilliant as he is talented. He

has an extraordinary vision and has what it takes to achieve it. He could be doing anything he wants, yet he chooses to be a part of the CCA to help us students, and I’m grateful for the privilege I’ve had to learn from him.”

Jessop teaches a choir class (the American Festival Chorus) that students can take for credit and community members can also join. There are about 200 members with about 10 percent being students.

“I try to stay as close as I can to all the students,” Jessop said. “As department head I was only with the music majors, but now as dean I am with the arts majors, the theatre majors and the music majors. I now have a broader spectrum of contact with students, but that is why I am here and I love my interfacing with the students.”

For more information on the Governor’s Leadership in the Arts Awards, please visit heritage.utah.gov/arts-and-museums/things-events/governors-leadership-in-the-arts-awards.

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French photojournalist Caroline Planque speaks on Capital Punishment at USU

By Shanie Howard
STAFF WRITER

In 2005 Caroline Planque, a renowned photojournalist, interviewed her first death row inmate; on Monday she visited Utah State University to educate students more on capital punishment in the US.

Planque was born in Valenciennes, France and graduated from The University of Texas in 1999. In 2005 she began working with inmates who were on death row to discover more about the U.S. judicial system and how they handle the death penalty. What she discovered was the process is unfair.

“The process isn’t fair. Rich people are almost never put on death row, only the poor,” Planque said.

Planque also said when she first started investigating this topic she was only mildly interested, but after her first interview with an inmate she knew her curiosity had grown into something much bigger.

“I went to visit one inmate that I had been writing; when I did, many more of them wanted to talk to me ... right there I knew I had my story,” she said.

Ever since that first interview Planque has been working to bring more attention to what she feels is an unjust system.

She began investigating capital punishment in the U.S. in 2005, a year when the number of inmates executed was at its highest. According the U.S. Department of Justice, a total of 60 inmates were executed in 2005, 19 of which were in Texas.

Since her first interview in 2005 Planque has interviewed a variety of people who have been affected by the death penalty in the U.S., including inmates who are currently on death row, attorneys who have both defended and prosecuted death row inmates, family members of inmates who have received the death

penalty, wardens who have worked in prisons with inmates on death row and have watched them die and victims of the crimes these inmates have committed.

In these interviews Planque said she has found many people who are both for and against the death penalty in the U.S. One of these people includes Linda White, the mother of Cathy White, who was abducted, raped and murdered in 1986. Linda White visited the man who had killed her daughter 14 and a half years after he was accused and shared with Planque her experience.

“We met (the man who had killed my daughter) ... he was very remorseful. Even after almost 15 years he looked more innocent than when he went to prison,” White said.

Planque has put together several accounts similar to Linda White’s, and in her lecture at USU, shared several of them. As with all her lectures on this topic, Planque hopes to change the public’s opinion about capital punishment in the U.S.

One of the points that Planque argues is, while upper-class citizens can afford the best lawyers in the business, those who make a lower income only have access to court-appointed lawyers who rarely do a good job defending their clients.

“Almost all (prisoners on death row) have court-appointed lawyers ... often they don’t get very good lawyers,” she said.

Planque also pointed out that while waiting for death row many prisoners, at least those in Texas, are kept in solitary confinement. Their time in confinement can last anywhere from a few months to a couple years. For those who are proven innocent and released from prison, their time in solitary confinement can have crippling effects.

“People who come out of this normally don’t do well. They aren’t mentally well and can’t get a job,” Planque said.



PHOTO BY **Matthew Halton**
Photojournalist Caroline Planque speaks about capital punishment to students in the Merrill-Cazier Library on April 25.

Former death row inmate Martian Draugon gave Planque his own account of his time in prison.

“To most officers, we’re not viewed as people — we’re viewed as, ‘How many cows do we have to feed? How many recs do we have? How many showers do we have?’ ... It’s easier to kill something than someone,” Draugon said.

Though Planque admits that many officers as well as family members of the victims don’t view inmates on death row as people, they are still affected. She shares the account of Carroll Pickett, a former chaplain at Walls, the Huntsville prison unit in Texas.

“I think if most people saw an execution they would imminently pass out. I’ve watched big tall men from the radio station collapse while observing the process. I’ve seen families, I’ve seen guards vomit. I’ve seen guards removed because they develop diarrhea. They just couldn’t stand it,” Pickett said.

Planque herself admits to having a hard

time processing what happens to the people she interacts with, despite the fact she herself has never witnessed an execution.

“I always think it’s not going to happen, it’s not going to happen, then they strap them down and inject them ... it’s really difficult but you have to put it in a place where you can handle it,” Planque said.

As Planque continues to research capital punishment in the U.S. her hopes that the judicial system will stop being an unjust system dwindle, she said.

“The real question is can a fair system exist ... I don’t think it can,” she said.

Despite her doubt, Planque continues to investigate and work on multiple projects to help inform the people in both the U.S. and her birth country, France, about capital punishment in the U.S. One day she hopes to release a book that encompasses all her work.

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T&M

TECH AND MONEY

Don't get trapped, keep your money safe



ZACH ROGERS
"Mr. Roger's Neighborhood"
— Zach is a sophomore studying PR, and is really looking forward to summer

—zrogers2222@gmail.com

What's the one thing we always need, but never seem to have enough of, especially as college students? Money.

Money is important and people always want more. Most of us work for our pay-checks or have awesome parents who help us out in times of need. Though we work hard for our money, there are some people who don't and they're just waiting for you to fall for the scheme they set up to get your hard-earned cash.

We often hear of people falling victim to financial scams. They lose thousands and thousands of dollars. But what do the scams look like? How do financial scammers get people to fall for them? Well, a lot of them prey on your good nature and desire to help people in need.

THE PHONY PHONE CALL.

Most of the time you will receive an email, or sometimes (less likely) through a phone call someone will claim to be a long-lost relative that needs help. They'll say they are hurting financially and will ask for money with the promise that they will pay you back as soon as they get back on their feet. The catch? You'll never see that money again, and if you fall for it once, they might try again.

THE SECRET SHOPPER.

Who doesn't love a shopping spree? This little trick varies between instances, and

sometimes it gets way out of hand. Essentially, you'll receive a check in the mail along with a survey, with the instructions to go shopping and spend it all and then fill out the survey. Sometimes companies actually send things like this out, but so many times it is just a very smart person who gets an innocent person to fall for their scheme. The worst part of this is the fact that you end up losing more than was initially given. The check often times bounces, and then you owe that money, plus however much you spent.

THE ONLINE PURCHASE.

Ever been shopping online, in places like eBay, and see a deal that seems too good to be true? Well, it probably is. This can go one of two ways. If you are the shopper, and you see something that you purchase, there is a chance that you never receive your item and then you're out that amount of money. The next one is a little trickier. If you're selling some-

thing, watch out for scammers. Basically, if you're selling something -- say it's a guitar or something -- maybe you're asking for \$300-to-\$500 dollars. You'll find a buyer, and they send you a check for \$1000, which is far more than you asked. So you send him the guitar and are happy with the deal. A few days later, you go to deposit the check and the teller at the bank tells you the check is a fake. So now you have just given your item away for free and might have to pay some fees at the bank.

A lot of this may sound like common sense, but in the moment it's really easy to fall for scams. These are just a few examples, and there are countless others that are happening every day. If you've fallen victim to one of these schemes, there are resources out there to help you. Be smart, and be careful. People always want to get at your hard-earned cash, and you are the first line of defense against that.

“Jon M. Huntsman” FROM PAGE 1

Corporation produces chemical products for consumer and industrial uses, with revenues of over \$15 billion.

Huntsman wasn't always wealthy, but he has always been charitable. Even when he was only making \$320 a month in the Navy, he would take \$50 out of his monthly salary to give to Navy Relief to help veterans' families, in addition to the \$32 he tithed to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. As his wealth grew, his desire to give grew with it. Over the course of his life, he has given away an estimated \$1.5 billion and in 2011 he was among 19 individuals listed in Forbes' "World's Biggest Givers."

Huntsman has shown a particular devotion to fighting cancer, a cause to which he has donated profusely. In 1993, he and his wife founded the Huntsman Cancer Institute, which has become one of the premier cancer research centers in America. The Huntsman Cancer Institute is dedicated to nothing less than finding a cure for cancer, and also boasts a cutting-edge hospital for the treatment of cancer patients.

"He's been incredibly successful, and I think that's because he works really hard. But it's also because he's driven by the idea of trying to make other people's lives better," said Brent Meacham, a Huntsman Scholar alumnus. "That's why he's been so successful. It's not just about making money for him — it's about making money to find ways to give it away,"

Huntsman also has a passion for higher education, to which he gives generously in both time and money.

"I believe that through higher education, we develop our leaders for tomorrow, and often our innovators for today," he said.

In 2007, Huntsman gifted \$25 million dollars to USU's business school, which was then re-named in his honor. Huntsman said five things at Utah State made it stand out: a small student body, an ideal community, a perfect campus, a strong faculty and terrific



PHOTO BY Johnny Morris
(Left to right) Stan Albrecht, Jon M. Huntsman Sr., Gov. Gary Herbert, Karen Huntsman, Dean Douglas Anderson cut the ribbon at the grand opening of the Huntsman Hall.

university leadership. It was Huntsman's lead gift that got the new Huntsman Hall started and inspired others, resulting in 70 percent of the building's cost being covered by private donors. Huntsman hopes USU will become known for its exceptional school of business and the strong sense of ethics instilled into each of its students.

This generous gift, combined with the weight of the Huntsman name, has since propelled the business school in a new direction. Meacham, who attended the business school both before and after Huntsman's gift, said he saw drastic changes to the program.

"I think it really helped us to find what our niche would be, which is to provide the best undergraduate experience possible," he said.

In addition, Huntsman inspired the creation of a unique opportunity for undergraduate business students: the Huntsman Scholar Program.

"It was his example and his standard of excellence that we were inspired by and built the program around," said Shannon Peterson,

the director of the Huntsman Scholar Program.

The program focuses heavily on leadership, service, academic rigor and global vision.

This focus on global vision is drawn in part from Huntsman's close relationship with Armenia. This relationship began in 1988 when Armenia was struck by a devastating earthquake. Ever since, he has shown devotion and warmth to the country through his personal efforts to help rebuild. Through the Armenian Scholar Program, Huntsman has funded 38 Armenian students to study at Utah State on full scholarship.

Through these efforts and more, Huntsman has inspired many students, and brought a whole new meaning to the business school's creed, "Dare Mighty Things."

Drawing inspiration from "The Last Leaf," a short story published by American writer O. Henry, Huntsman has his own unique take on the business school's creed. He said all people have within themselves talents and abilities — a masterpiece — that doesn't surface unless they take the time and effort to discover it. He

said many people don't do great things because they don't work to discover those talents.

"The great masterpiece of their life has never been born because they never tested all of their abilities," he said. "They've never tested their capacity to conquer challenges. They've never realized that they can overcome the impossible. They've never believed that anything and everything is possible."

Huntsman believes that if students can test their capacity for greatness, incredible things can happen.

"When they do, they find that there is some great talent and great capacity for doing some good," he said.

Huntsman stands as an example to many students at Utah State, reminding them that the only limits are the ones they put on themselves.

"They can really do anything that they set their heart and mind to doing," he said.

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Sun and Snow: Why Utah's weather is so unpredictable



PHOTO BY **Kyle Todecheene**
An overlook of Cache Valley.

By Zach Rogers
STAFF WRITER

Spring in Utah is full of sunshine, snow, rain and sunshine again. But why? Is this normal? Is it only Utah? Why does it seem like winter just won't give up?

Climatologists say it's normal for spring to be bipolar, and it isn't just Utah.

"Spring is a transition time between winter and summer; we are getting more solar radiations which drives the high pressure and low pressure systems," said Robert Gillies, the director of the Climate Center and a Utah State University climatologist. "Spring comes

with a high degree of variability."

Spring is just that time of year that change happens, he said, but it doesn't come all at once. It's a gradual event.

"We see very warm days ... when the high pressure sets in, and a warm, southerly wind comes in, providing a spike in temperature," Gillies said. "With a low-pressure system, we see a drop in temperatures, and along with that, storms."

Spring is a transition period, but it seems like Utah is especially bad. One day it's 30 degrees and snowing and one day it's 78 degrees and sunny. There was evidence of that last week. Thursday, it was a beautiful, sunny

day everyone was outside and soaking up the sunshine. By Saturday, it was pouring rain and there were cooler temperatures.

In recent years there have been hotter-than-usual temperatures and colder-than-usual temperatures in the spring.

"When temperatures are hot, they are a lot hotter than they should be, and when temperatures are cold, they are a lot colder," Gillies said. "This is very likely caused by the climate change we are currently experiencing."

Some years spring is a very frustrating season, and other years it seems like there is no spring at all. Some years it goes from winter straight into summer without any real

gradual transition, said Lawrence Hipps, a professor in atmospheric science at Utah State.

"April and May are the wettest months out of the year, and eventually the sun will win and the jet stream gets so far north that it very rarely reaches down, and then we finally enter summer," Hipps said. "It's business as usual in the region we live in. And ultimately this is all caused by the earth's position around the sun."

Weather reports say it will be rainy all week, so don't forget your umbrella. But look forward to the Monday of finals week, as reports say it will be in the 70s with sunshine.

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A proud legacy: USU Army ROTC celebrates 100 years

By Selina Ramsey
STAFF WRITER

This year, ROTC programs across the United States celebrate their 100th birthday. For Utah State University's Army ROTC, this anniversary means celebrating the proud lineage of a program that was once regarded as one of the biggest and best in the nation.

In 1888, the Agricultural College of Utah, which is now USU, was founded as part of the 1862 Morrill Land-Grant Act, an act that established many universities with a mandatory two years of military tactics training for male students. In 1916, these existing military programs were organized into units of Reserve Officers' Training Corps, or ROTC's.

Utah State graduate student and army ROTC cadet Camon Davison has done extensive research on Utah State University's history. He said the Army ROTC is central to its history and heritage.



PHOTO COURTESY OF **USU Archives**
1955 ROTC members practice formations on the Quad.

"When the United States entered World War I in 1917, the campus was basically shut down and became a basic training site," Davidson said.

Enlisted soldiers were sent to the USU campus to be taught mechanical arts and trades, and to be trained in military science.

During World War II, approximately 30,000 cadets were trained at Utah State.

E.G. Peterson, president of the University at the time, petitioned the federal government for funds to build barracks for the students. These barracks, the Geology Building and Ray B. West, still stand on USU's campus today.

"The Quad exists because it was built for military training and drills," Davison said.

Utah State's campus once had so many Cadets, though, that it had to take to the old football field and field house for training because they could not all fit on the Quad.

In 1946, E.W. Timberlake, who was a general during World War II, willingly took a demotion to become colonel over USU's ROTC

program. He had high regard for its cadets, who had earned a reputation for their high morals and character. "In about two years, our program became one of the biggest and best in the nation," Davison said.

The USU ROTC was given the nickname "West Point of the West" because it had the size and prestige comparable to any other U.S. military academy. USU is the only school in ROTC history to be given the rank of "Superior Program."

"The detachment here is one of the best and most history in the nation," said current USU army ROTC cadet John Roberts.

This history, he said, gives him immense pride in his enrollment.

"When our detachment is called to attention, we always sound off with our motto, 'West Point of the West,' which is a proud call to our heritage," he said.

USU's ROTC is not the size it once was.

Major Jonathan Kenworthy, current primary instructor of the Army ROTC, said the program commissions about 10 students per year. The program used to commission 500-800 officers per year.

After the Vietnam and Korean Wars ended, many ROTC programs declined. The U.S. government eventually dropped the mandatory training.

In 1997, the USU ROTC program was shut down, but reopened just before 9/11.

"We're happy to be back," Kenworthy said.

He said Utah State's detachment has celebrated the 100-year anniversary of the Army ROTC this week with great pride.

"We had a great turnout for our 5K on Saturday, and we showed a wonderful documentary on our program's history last Thursday," he said.

"We'd just like to spark more awareness about our program," said Dan Whittaker, an

SFC.

Though the program has a small footprint on campus, he said, it is an amazing organization and has had an integral part in Utah State University's history.

"The ROTC program is without a doubt one of the most invaluable experiences in which a college student can engage," said Jeff Sonderegger, a graduating ROTC cadet. "It has had a profound impact on my life."

Roberts said his experience in USU's ROTC has been nothing but positive. "Anybody who walks through the doors of the Military Science Building goes away a changed person," he said. "The individuals who complete this program will make excellent officers with the training they've received here."

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The first class of USU Saudi pilots graduates

By Morgan Pratt
STAFF WRITER

Abdulrahman Alnassar — Nassar for short — said as a little boy growing up in Saudi Arabia, he wanted to follow in his dad’s footsteps to be a pilot.

“My dad encouraged me to be a pilot,” he said. “Now he’s retiring soon.”

But, Nassar ended up studying engineering in college because it was the cheaper, easier and more practical option.

“It’s cheaper to get a pilot license in the States,” he said. “But then Saudi Airlines announced a scholarship.”

The demand for commercial pilots spiked worldwide. To keep up with the demand, Saudi Airlines announced a scholarship that pays for students to get their pilot license in the United States. After that the individual graduates and returns to Saudi Arabia to finish up their training to receive a commercial pilot license. Once they finish that training, they are hired as commercial airline pilot for that airline.

Nassar said he wanted the scholarship, but the competition was furious. But he perse-

vered through numerous, rigorous tests all in the name of being a pilot. After he survived the meticulous vetting process, he discovered he won the scholarship.

“It was my happiest day when I found out I made it,” he said. “I still remember I was yelling and screaming in the room and being happy with my friends.”

He then moved halfway around the world to Logan, Utah, to speak another language, learn another culture and get an aviation technology degree. Four years later, Nassar is now one of five Saudi Arabian students graduating in May.

Andreas Wesemann, assistant professor for the Aviation Technology program, said these student-pilots were hand-picked. They are the best of the best that Saudi Arabia had to offer. The Saudi students rose to the occasion, despite all of the challenges they faced, including studying aviation in another country.

“Not only are they on the other side of the world geographically, but they are essentially on the other side of the world culturally and with their language,” he said. “But they came a long way.”

Nassar said learning English was his biggest challenge, especially because aviation has its

own vocabulary. To add to the confusion, much of the vocabulary is regional, so each airport he encounters has a brand new learning curve associated with it.

“I took a lot of time to gain the aviation skills, like English,” he said. “It is a major complication we (Saudis) face.”

Sultan Jan is another graduating, soon-to-be pilot from Saudi Arabia. He said one of his biggest challenges was that he didn’t feel like Logan was home to him. On the other hand, Nassar said he came to call Logan home because it’s where everything he owns is.

“Everytime I go back, I feel like I’m missing something,” he said. “Maybe when I move my stuff back to Saudi Arabia, it’ll feel like home again.”

Much like Nassar, Sultan applied for the Saudi Airlines scholarship after he stopped being as practical about his life choices. He decided to not be a surgeon, but to be a pilot instead.

“Being a pilot is OK because I’ll still make money,” he said.

Sultan and Nassar both agree that flying for their first time was one of the most amazing moments in their lives. They had a running

competition within their group of friends to see who could be the first person to fly a plane. Nassar won, but due to weather complications, he could only fly for about 20 minutes for his airplane voyage.

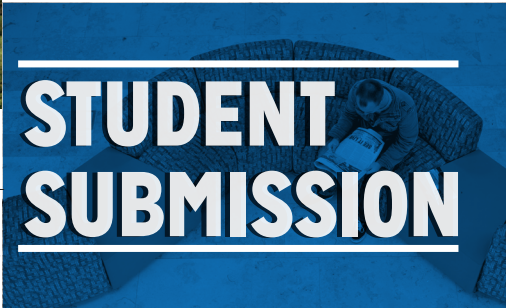
“The first time I flew, I had some sort of shock and I couldn’t comprehend that I was flying,” Nassar said. “I was looking outside to believe it. It was a very beautiful moment at the time.”

Sultan said when he finally flew, it was marvelous to fly among the clouds.

Since then, they’ve completed more than 300 hours of flight training each and they are both headed back to Saudi Arabia in May. Once they return, they will complete more training and take even more exams before they can become commercial pilots.

“Because of the scholarship with Saudi Airlines, you could say I’m hired to work for them,” Nassar said. “I still have to go to some sort of converting the license to the Saudi license.”

–morgan.pratt.robinson@gmail.com



Cardigan

By Preston Grover

We decided to stop drinking and spend Sunday at the zoo. It was the last day of spring break, and we realized that we hadn’t really done anything. Spring was humming throughout the air, yet we had cooped ourselves up the entire time. At the very least, we needed some fresh air and freedom, as opposed to more booze. “That sounds fun – you wanna top me off first?” Sara asked, holding out her empty gin and tonic.

Sara was wearing purple; I remember that pretty vividly. She was wearing that purple cardigan that she loved, the one that didn’t really go with anything else she had but she insisted on wearing frequently. At least it didn’t have sequins or glitter.

We gathered what we thought we should bring: a camera, a sack lunch, water bottles, a flask. We placed all of this in a backpack and I threw it over my shoulder and we left. I also grabbed a bus schedule; we had just missed the most recent bus. “Next one should be here in another half hour,” I said, uncomfortable. Her cardigan was over a neon yellow tee and some blue jeans with a hole in her right knee. She looked like the illicit love child of the 80s and 90s. “Trying to get noticed, are we?” I couldn’t help but ask; was that passive aggressive? Sara gave me a snarky smirk, and then the conversation plateaued and was silent for a few minutes.

Soon enough, Sara pulled out her phone and started texting, and I could see her typing “Wanna come to the zoo with me a Preston?”

Typical: Adj. Exactly what Sara is doing right now.

I felt myself perspiring, a moist layer coating my forehead. Spring had snuck up on us, sure, but the sweat was from anything but the heat, and I needed that bus to come. The sooner we were on the bus, the sooner we could be home.

Why did I invite her? Because stupid hormones told my stupid brain that I should

invite her to the stupid zoo in a stupid attempt to get close to her. Hormones get to a point where they start making you ignore logic, and you stop having common sense. What else could it be?

I still remember sitting at a party, and across the room Sara had her body pressed against some frat boy while I started chugging a Pabst because there was nothing else for me to do. I needed to feel something, anything, besides embarrassment and shame. Belligerence would have to do.

The air on the bus tasted stale and depressing. An old man behind us sniffled the whole ride there. Soon the bus squelched to our stop and we got off. We paid the entrance fee and pressed past the metallic turnstile cylinders into the park. The stench of various feces was overwhelming in the heat. We watched antelope galloping together in their pen, too crowded. Two antelope seemed to be nuzzling each other, rubbing their necks together, but part of me wondered if this was affection or if they were itching a scratch, using each other because of proximity.

We stopped at a birdcage that had an owl in it, trying to sleep despite the noise of the patrons. I’ll think back to that owl sometimes, imagine it in that cage alone, and sometimes I’ll feel sorry for its solitude and singularity, but more often than not I’ll be envious.

“I feel like you might be mad at me,” Sara said as we were walking away from the zoo back to the bus stop.

“I’m not,” I said, which was true. I don’t think you would call it mad, but it sure wasn’t happy.

“You really don’t like this cardigan, do you?” she asked me.

“What does that have to do with anything?”

“I dunno.” She kept her face forward. The bus arrived at the stop as we approached, and we jogged the rest of the way to make it.

“You’re right,” I said as we had settled into some seats. “I don’t. At all.”

Two months later, Sarah will move back to Missouri. She’ll get back together with her ex, who will impregnate her and then leave her. I’ll find out all of this through hearsay, much after the fact. She’ll try and contact me after she gives birth, but I’ll ignore her. I’ll be on my own, without cages or Pabst or cardigans to worry about.

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From South Korea to Logan: Jeon's journey to USU golf team

By Bianca Pahl
STAFF WRITER

A young boy from South Korea moved all the way to Salt Lake City with his family when he was 8 years old. Not knowing the language, the people or the culture, he picked up a golf club and started to make a name for himself in his new home.

Seokwon Jeon finished up his last season playing golf for Utah State University this year and will graduate in May with a bachelor’s degree in sociology.

“I’m excited but I’m going to miss it,” Jeon said. “Golf is an individual sport and the only time there is a team aspect is at the high school and college level and it will be my last time I’m doing that so it will be something I miss for sure.”

Jeon’s father, a golfer himself, introduced him to the game in seventh grade and is supportive of his continued success along with the rest of his family.

Before Jeon was old enough to work at a

see “Jeon”PAGE 8



PHOTO COURTESY OF **USU Athletics**
Seokwon Jeon tees off during a golf tournament. Jeon is a senior and finished 30th overall in this year’s Mountain West Tournament.

Looking back on Aggie sports



(LEFT) Keri Peel performs on the floor routine last season. The Gymnastics team finished fifth place at NCAA Regionals. It was the third straight year that the Aggies went to regionals. (RIGHT) Romai Ugarte returns a shot. The men’s tennis team became the first USU team to win the Mountain West regular season title this year since they moved to the conference in 2013.



By Kalen Taylor & Thomas Sorenson
SPORTS EDITOR & SENIOR WRITER

GYMNASTICS

Utah State gymnastics wrapped up the year with a fifth-place finish at NCAA Regionals. It was the third straight year that the Aggies went to regionals, a feat that hadn't been accomplished since the program appeared in 17 straight regionals from 1986-2002. Overall, USU was 8-15, including 3-2 in the Mountain Rim Gymnastics Conference.

The Aggies are under the command of Nadalie Walsh. Walsh has revitalized the Utah State gymnastics program and postseason appearances have gone from being an anomaly to normality. The coaching staff loses a few key components to the team in McK-inzey Martinez and other seniors. However, the team reloads with a host of experienced young athletes and will look to better its performance in postseason competition next season.

MEN'S TENNIS

The Aggie men's tennis team set a record for overall wins with 21 and hold a 6-1 record in the Mountain West. The team claimed Utah State's first MW championship and has been ranked in the top 100 for the majority of the season. The season isn't over yet for USU, the conference tournament starts Friday, but the Aggies have already exceeded many outside expectations.

What makes the run even more improbable is that USU has five freshman, two sophomores and two juniors, so the winning is likely to be carried on in the coming seasons. Head coach Clancy Shields is in his third year as the head coach and will continue to help USU improve as long as he stays in Logan.

Potentially not losing any players in the offseason means Utah State will likely stay at or near the top of the MW next year and be

competing to win another championship.

WOMEN'S TENNIS

The Utah State women's tennis team dropped its final two regular season matches and dropped to 10-12 on the year and 2-3 in the Mountain West. USU lost four players at the end of last season, which proved to be a difficult transition. It was a bit of a dropoff from last season's 14-10 mark but the Aggies are still in the mix for the conference tournament.

Utah State begins the four-day MW tournament on Thursday as the No. 9 seed and faces No. 8 Air Force in the first round. If USU wins, it moves on to face top-seeded Fresno State on Friday. With no seniors on the team, any extra experience in the tournament is a bonus for USU as it will look to improve upon its mark from this year.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

The Aggies were much improved on the court in the 2015-2016 season. The record of 14-17 and 8-10 in the Mountain West shattered the 8-23 mark of the year before. In 2014, USU lost two key players right before the season started and freshman Funda Nakkasoglu stepped up. This season, as a sophomore, Nakkasoglu led the team and was one of the top scorers in the nation for the Aggies.

Just when it looked like the team had loaded up on post talent, good guards and had a chance to win the MW next year, Nakkasoglu departed. After the season she decided to take her talents elsewhere for her final two years of eligibility.

The move leaves the women's program in a scary situation, losing a player who averaged 21 points per game, but with an entire offseason Utah State has a chance to recover. With no more Nakkasoglu USU's offense will likely be more balanced but someone has to step up in order for the team to be successful

next season.

SOFTBALL

Utah State softball hasn't had a winning season in the last 20 years. Last season, the team went 19-36 but so far this year, the Aggies are on track to break the losing-record streak. USU is 24-21 and has seven more regular season games.

Over half of the team is upperclassmen but only five of them are seniors so much of Utah State's roster will be returning as the team continues to build. The coach, Steve Johnson, is in his third year and working on building a program that will be successful every year, but not having a winning season in 20 years makes that a little difficult to imagine.

GOLF

Utah State's golf team is anchored by senior Seokwon Jeon. Jeon has been tops on the team for a few season and extremely consistent for the Aggies. However, as a team, USU finished last in the Mountain West tournament this season and has been in the bottom three for the past three years.

With Jeon as the only senior, the golf team is likely to improve as most players return and add experience to the roster. Dean Johansen has been the Aggie coach for 16 years; he had some good finishes in the Western Athletic Conference but hasn't had the same success in the MW.

TRACK AND FIELD / CROSS COUNTRY

The Aggie cross country team finished the season during November in Albuquerque, New Mexico at the NCAA Mountain Region Championships. The women came in at No. 11 and the men last at No. 16.

Track and field are closing in on the end of the season. The Aggies' final regular season meet is on Friday and Saturday and the Mountain West Championships begin on May 11.

The men and women each finished fourth at the MW championship last season. Many members of USU's track and field squad have set personal and school records this season. Gregg Gensel has been in charge of the programs for 32 years and they should continue to stay near the top of the conference as long as he stays around.

FOOTBALL

An incredible, explosive, magnificent, breathtaking 52-26 exorcism against Boise State in mid-October left Aggie fans with visions of Mountain West trophies dancing in their heads. The excitement of that performance was dashed quickly, as the team was crushed by San Diego State, 48-14, the following week. Subsequent road losses to New Mexico and Air Force left the Aggies needing a win against Nevada just to earn bowl eligibility, a frustrating place to be after the heights the team thought it could achieve just a month prior. The team finished the season with a dispiriting 51-28 home loss to rival BYU and a listless performance in a 23-21 loss to Akron in the Famous Idaho Potato Bowl in Boise.

In spite of the frustrating losses, there were a number of record performances during the year. Quarterback Kent Myers set the Aggies’ single-game school record for rushing yards for a quarterback with 191 yards in a 33-18 win on Homecoming Night. Running back Devante Mays rushed for a career-high 176 yards in a dominant victory over Wyoming, part of a breakout season for the junior. And senior Hunter Sharp had a career performance against Air Force, catching 13 passes for 193 yards and three touchdowns.

MEN'S BASKETBALL

The Aggies suffered through a frustrating 2015-16 campaign. Forward David Collette,

see “Aggie Sports”PAGE 7

TWEETS



of the

WEEK



@kenzwilliams18
Turns out, Superman does have something on Charlie Puth. Superman doesn't get sick. #AggieLife #AggieStrife



@milesdbrooks
I was going to go out to eat but gushers are 10 boxes for 10\$ at Smith's #blessed #aggielife



@TrentonMGates
Every semester I hope Voldemort attacks so final exams are cancelled & Gryffindor wins the house cup; it hasn't happened yet. #aggiestrike



@wimtilson
With the university promoting earth day as much as they are you'd think old main would actually be green #aggielife #aggiestrike



(LEFT) Noelle Johnson gets ready to pitch in a softball game. After 20 straight seasons without a winning record the softball team currently sits above .500 with a record of 24-21. (RIGHT) Tonny Lindsey catches a pass against Nevada last season. USU's football team finished 6-7 last season.

“Aggie Sports” FROM PAGE 6

the second-leading scorer from the season before, informed the team of his decision to leave just two days prior to the season opener. Utah State weathered the storm early, starting the season 9-3, but struggled with a lack of frontcourt depth through a 7-11 performance in the Mountain West. The nadir of the season was a five-game losing streak from the middle of January through the beginning of February that saw USU lose multiple games in which they had a second-half lead.

Going forward, starters Chris Smith and Darius Perkins each will be graduating and forward Lew Evans, an important piece of the rotation this season, will be leaving as a graduate transfer. Future prospects for the Aggies are bright, however. Point guard Shane Rector, who was moved to the starting lineup

prior to the first game of the MW Tournament, and guard Julion Pearre each had strong showings in Las Vegas. And although forward Jalen Moore declared for the NBA draft this summer, he kept his options open so he can return to USU next season if he chooses.

VOLLEYBALL

It's safe to say the 2015-16 season did not turn out the way the Utah State volleyball team hoped. Six wins in 32 attempts, including a 2-16 record against Mountain West opponents, is not good. The team frequently looked outclassed, getting shut out eight times in conference play alone. Many of the struggles, however, were due to the youth of the team. The Aggies didn't have a single senior on the roster and five freshmen played at least 50 sets. That youthfulness, though a negative this season, allowed the team to gain a lot of experience. Additionally, all of the players will

be coming back to the team next year.

The Aggies were led by outside hitter Kaylie Kamalu, who averaged 3.1 kills per set. Outside hitter Rachel Gale was also impressive in attack, averaging 3.17 kills per set, and had 16 aces on the season. Libero Hannah Gleason, who will be a senior next season, finished with 506 digs, the fifth-most in USU history.

WOMEN'S SOCCER

The Utah State women's soccer team was unable to find its stride this season, finishing with 10 wins, eight losses and two draws on the year. The highlight of the season was a three-game winning streak against Air Force, Colorado College and Colorado State near the end of Oct. The Aggies started the season with consecutive shut-out victories against Central Arkansas and Missouri State before a 1-0 road loss to UVU. The team rebounded with

another shut-out, this time against Houston. The team never lost more than two games in a row, but was unable to build consistent momentum in the other direction either.

The Aggies were led in the attack by forward Jessica Brooksby, who started every game and scored 12 goals during the season, three of which were game-winners. Midfielders Wesley Hamblin and Katie Flynn shared the team-lead in assists with five apiece and added four goals and two goals, respectively. The backline was bolstered by goalkeeper Jeannie Woller, who started all but one game and orchestrated a defense that gave up just 24 goals in 20 games. The attack, on the other hand, generated 28 goals, giving the team a positive goal-differential for the year.



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OPINION

Enough with 'Game of Thrones'

**LOGAN JONES**

"Trail Blazin'"

– Logan Jones is a junior majoring in journalism. Listening to "Partition" in the car is not ideal, but he's not allowed to mess with the radio.

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–@Logantj

Just once I'd like to have a summer with some new trends.

Look, you crazy Game of Thrones diehards, the show's been on the air since 2011 — you really think I'm suddenly going to jump on that bandwagon this week? As thrilled as I am to ride the bus to work every morning this summer listening to middle school kids discuss

names of characters that probably won't survive to the mid-season finale, I'm a little annoyed by the idea that I somehow don't know what I'm missing. Maybe I just think it's dumb, ever consider that?

Never have I met a fan of the show who, upon learning I had no interest in partaking of what is apparently the pinnacle of all 21st century entertainment, didn't immediately start listing off the superior qualities of the show's first season, the books, George R. R. Martin, Peter Dinklage, HBO in general and the fact that it gets a lot less rapey around season 3 or 4.

Game of Thrones fans and sushi lovers should get together with the crossfit folks and duel to the death over which is the most underappreciated. Have you ever considered that maybe there are some of us out there that don't like raw fish, or graphic disfigurement, or popping joints out of our sockets during a gym

session? You do you — but leave the rest of us alone.

And it's not like Game of Thrones is the only topic "back" in the news despite the fact it never really left. Let's all lose our freaking minds over a new Beyonce album, am I right? What a daring artistic move to release an album to promote your current tour, some real groundbreaking stuff there. Oh, but it's available for free, which is a big deal because until now only tiny inconsequential bands like U2 and Radiohead pulled stunts like that.

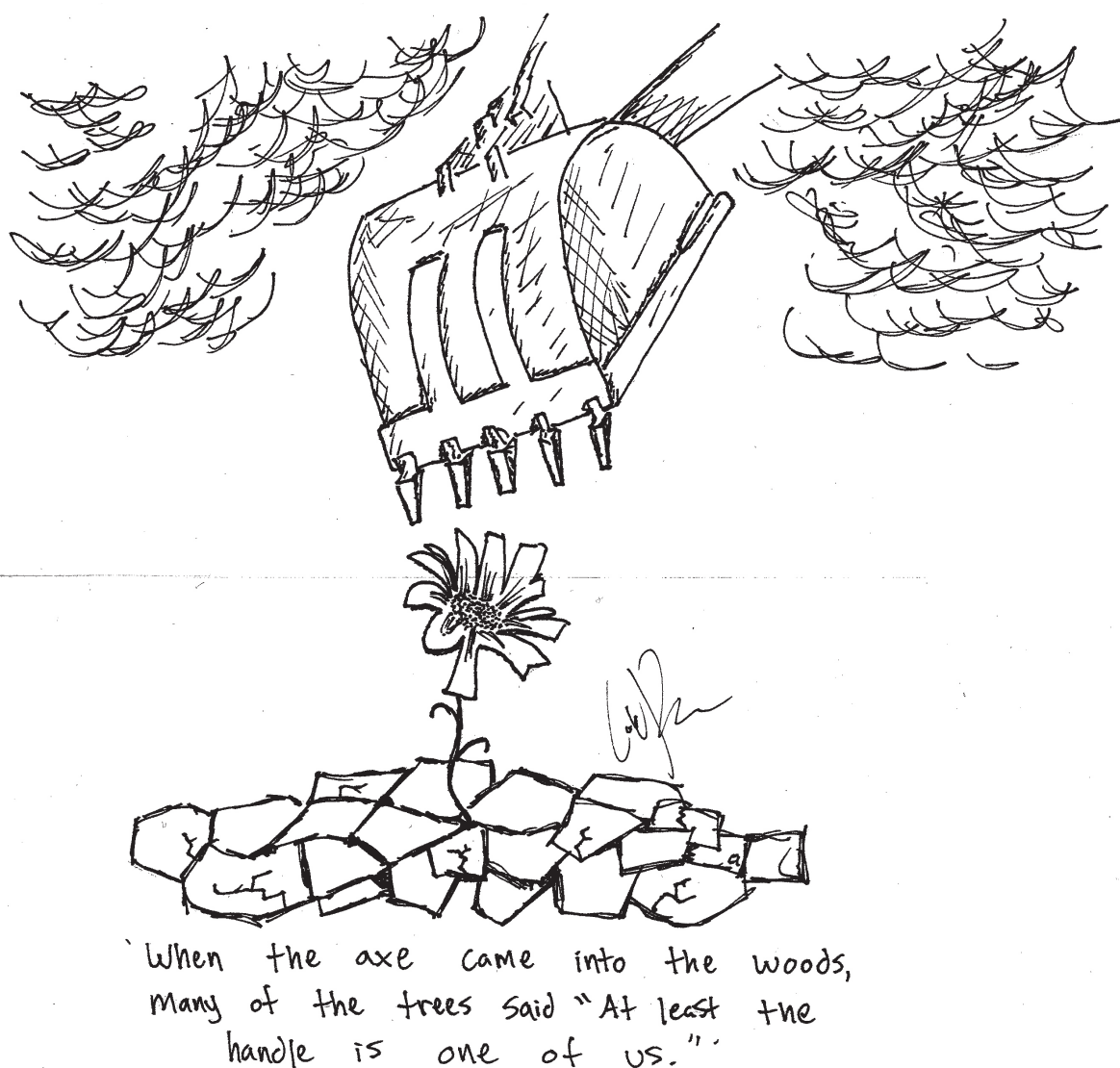
Let me stop you right there before I get bricks through my living room window — don't go thinking I hate Beyonce. I jam to Partition just like the rest of you. I'm just against anyone in the public eye who gives themselves a nickname or ruins a Super Bowl, and Beyonce's managed to do both of those things in, like, four years.

Really, I'm waiting for the rest of the world

to get as tired of the same old stuff in the news as I am. Miley Cyrus is back doing whatever it is she does. Deflategate is back and Tom Brady may or may not miss four games this fall. That's a bad example actually, because I hope Deflategate goes all the way to the Supreme Court and never ever dies because angry Bill Simmons podcasts get me through the long work days.

But would it be the worst thing in the world to have some new stuff to talk about? Are we really content with this endless cycle we're in, where we talk about the same four or five topics endlessly until school resumes in August?

Maybe that's too much to ask. Part of me wants to throw my hands up and just buy into all of it. But then I'd have to watch Game of Thrones, and that's just not something I'm going to do.



B

BACKBURNER

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be familiar with the Microsoft Office Suite 2. Must be have a positive outlook when faced with challenges

- 4. Must be self driven and adaptable
- Salary + Benefits
- Must be willing to travel.
- Email troyh@stander.com

STORAGE

Moving? Don't haul things home. Storage units starting at \$29 per month. Visit www.CacheValleyStorage.com or call South Cache Storage 435-755-5052.

APARTMENTS FOR RENT

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CALENDAR | APRIL 28-APRIL 30
ADD YOUR EVENT AT USUSTATESMAN.COM/EVENTS

THURSDAY, APRIL 28

Art Festival Little Bloomsbury Foundation Free, 10:00 a.m.	Free iPad Class North Logan Library Free, 2:00 p.m.	America The Beautiful The Ellen Eccles Theatre \$5-\$25. \$5 admission / \$25 family, 7:00 p.m.	Caregiver Support Training Stevens-Henager College Free, 7:00 p.m.
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FRIDAY, APRIL 29

USU Observatory Public Viewing Night Science Engineering Research Building Free, 9:00 p.m.	Head Start Open House Bear River Head Start (Logan) Free, 10:00 a.m.	Art Festival Little Bloomsbury Foundation Free, 10:00 a.m.	Craft Friday- After School Program North Logan City Library Free, 3:00 p.m.
World Carnival Utah State University Quad \$5-\$12, 4:00 p.m.	The Jolt - Jump Rope Extravaganza Performance Logan Community Recreation Center \$3-\$20, 6:00 p.m.	Hypnotist Fundraiser Show Eccles Science Learning Center, Emert Auditorium, Room 130, on the USU campus. \$7, 7:00 p.m.	Elements on Ice George S. Eccles Ice Center \$5-\$8, 7:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, APRIL 30

Birdie DaySharp-tailed Grouse Lek and Ranch Breakfast McDonald's Free, 5:00 a.m.	Gift of Hearing George Nelson Fieldhouse at USU \$15, 8:30 a.m.	Flying Aggies' Open Logan River Golf Course \$95, 9:30 a.m.
Farm Animal Days American West Heritage Center \$6, 10;00 a.m.	Art Festival Little Bloomsbury Foundation Free, 10:00 a.m.	Live Music by Raven Spirit Caffe Ibis Free, 1:00 p.m.

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